protest march to All India Radio and Doordarshan office at Delhi on the 22nd July, 1987;

(b) whether the representatives of the blind and the above Federation had met the officials and other of All India Radio and Doordarshan and had submitted the "charter of demands" and representations and held talks with them regarding their demands, issues, problems and grievances;

(c) if so, what are their demands, grievances and issues and the details of their talks and assurances given by officials during their talks and the outcome thereof; and

(d) what concrete steps have been taken to concede their demands and implement the assurances given to blind persons and their Association?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) Representatives of the National Federation of the Blind had met officers of All India Radio and Doordarshan on 22-7-1987 and had presented their grievances for non-coverage of their agitational activities. Their grievances were passed on to the concerned officers of All India Radio and Doordarshan. However, the allegation made that All India Radio and Doordarshan do not give any coverage to their activities is not factually correct. Details regarding the coverage given by All India Radio and Doordarshan to the activities of the Federation are given in the Statement.

Statement

All India Radio:

(i) On 3-7-87 the Press Conference addressed by the General Secretary of the Federation of the Blind Shri S. K. Rungta, was covered by All India Radio.

(ii) On 6-7-1987, the National Federation of the Blind staged a dharna near the residence of the Prime Minister. This event was noticed in the 2100 hrs. (English) bulletin and 1950 hrs. (Hindi) bulletin of A.I.R. on the same day.

(iii) A 'Dharna' was organised by the National Federation of the Blind at Rail Bhavan, Shastri Bhavan and Udyog Bhavan in New Delhi on 22-7-1987. This item was noticed in the Pradeshik bulletin of All India Radio on the same day. It was also noticed by All India Radio, the next day, in its morning bulletins at 0600 hrs. (Hindi), 0605 hrs. (English), 0800 hrs. (Hindi) and 0810 hrs. (English).

(iv) A rally organized by the Members of the Federation on 27-7-1987 was covered in the National Hindi bulletin of All India Radio at 1805 hrs. on the same day.

Doordarshan:

A function organised by the National Federation of the Blind on 28-7-87 was covered and telecast by Doordarshan in its regional news bulletin the same day.

Acquisition of land for Artillery Centre Deolali

3899. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire more land for the Artillery Centre, Deolali, District Nasik, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what progress have been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal at Army Headquarters to acquire land for Artillery Centre, Deolali, District Nasik, Maharashtra. However, there is a proposal to acquire more land for extension of Deolali Ranges which are required for the School of Artillery, Deolali. The case is under examination of Government.